

wherein the system has a mode in which said sound recognition converter converts sounds into electrical signals for tilting the seat.

22. (New) The system of claim 21, wherein the system has a mode in which the system is responsive to a sound to move the wheelchair from a first predetermined position to a second predetermined position.

23. (New) The system of claim 21, further comprising an alarm subsystem for emitting an audible alarm in response to a failure of the system to recognize a specific sound from the operator.

24. (New) A system for controlling power driven equipment by a sound from an operator, wherein the equipment can be in any one of a plurality of states, said system comprising:

    a controller responsive to at least one electrical signal to change the state of the power driven equipment;

    a voice recognition converter for converting a sound into said at least one electrical signal; and

    a sound transducer for transmitting said sound from the operator to said voice recognition converter, said sound transducer comprising a microphone engaging a larynx region of the operator.

25. (New) The system of claim 24, wherein said equipment is a motorized wheelchair, and the states of the equipment include states of movement and non-movement of the motorized wheelchair.

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26. (New) The system of claim 24, wherein said voice recognition converter means for converting a plurality of different sounds into the same electrical signal, whereby either of a primary command and a backup command is executed by the system.

27. (New) The system of claim 24, wherein said equipment is a motorized wheelchair, the wheelchair comprises a seat having a tilt mechanism for tilting the seat relative to a support surface for the wheelchair;

wherein said system has a plurality of modes; and  
wherein the system has a mode in which said voice  
recognition converter converts vocal sounds into  
electrical signals for tilting the seat.

28. (New) The system of claim 24, wherein the microphone engaging a larynx region further comprises a shield to prevent an input to the system from a person around the operator.

29. (New) A system for controlling power driven equipment by a vocal sound from an operator, wherein the equipment can be in any one of a plurality of states, said system comprising:

a voice recognition converter having a training session  
module in which reference commands are entered  
therein by the operator to serve as a basis for  
comparison with actual commands to be given during  
an operation of the power driven equipment;  
said reference commands can be in any spoken language  
and can be in a form of a non-language sound.

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30. (New) The system of claim 29, wherein said non-language sound further comprises a cough or a guttural sound or a hum.

31. (New) The system of claim 29, wherein said power driven equipment further comprises a wheelchair.

32. (New) The system of claim 30, wherein said power driven equipment further comprises a wheelchair.

33. (New) A system for controlling power driven equipment by a vocal sound from an operator, wherein the equipment can be in any one of a plurality of states, said system comprising;

a vocal sound recognition converter having a principal command module and a backup command module;  
said backup command module being activated in cases including when a principal command is not recognized or when a principal command is not given.

34. (New) The system of claim 33, wherein the backup command module further comprises an emergency command.

35. (New) The system of claim 34, wherein said emergency command further comprises an exclamation uttered by the operator in a panic situation.

36. (New) A system for controlling power driven equipment by a sound from an operator, wherein the equipment can be in any one of a plurality of states, said system comprising:

a sound transducer engagable to a larynx region of the

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operator;  
a stored logic machine having a receiver for an output  
from the sound transducer; and  
said stored logic machine responsive to variable  
outputs from the sound transducer to change the  
state of the power driven equipment.

37. (New) The system of claim 36, wherein the power driven equipment is a wheelchair.

38. (New) The system of claim 37, wherein the sound transducer is a microphone.

39. (New) The system of claim 38, wherein the stored logic machine is a microprocessor  
having a program executable therein to instruct a controller to change the state of the  
wheelchair.

40. (New) A system for controlling a motorized wheelchair by sounds from an operator,  
wherein the motorized wheelchair can be in any one of a plurality of states, including  
states of movement and non-movement of the motorized wheelchair, said system  
comprising:

a controller responsive to electrical signals to change  
the state of the motorized wheelchair from any one  
of the plurality of states to another, wherein  
each of the electrical signals corresponds to a  
change of state;

a sound transducer for converting sounds into a  
plurality of said electrical signals; and  
a head operated switch to stop the wheelchair.

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41. (New) A system for controlling a motorized wheelchair by sounds from an operator, wherein the motorized wheelchair can be in any one of a plurality of states, including states of movement and non-movement of the motorized wheelchair, said system comprising:

a controller responsive to electrical signals to change  
the state of the motorized wheelchair from any one  
of the plurality of states to another, wherein  
each of the electrical signals corresponds to a  
change of state;  
a sound transducer for converting sounds into a  
plurality of said electrical signals; and  
a puff and sip control device readily available to the  
operator.

42. (New) A system for controlling a motorized wheelchair by sounds from an operator, wherein the motorized wheelchair can be in any one of a plurality of states, including states of movement and non-movement of the motorized wheelchair, said system comprising:

a controller responsive to electrical signals to change  
the state of the motorized wheelchair from any one  
of the plurality of states to another, wherein  
each of the electrical signals corresponds to a  
change of state;  
a sound transducer for converting sounds into a  
plurality of said electrical signals; and  
wherein said controller further comprises an audio  
confirmation module responsive to a sound from the  
operator.

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43. (New) A system for controlling a motorized wheelchair by sounds from an operator, wherein the motorized wheelchair can be in any one of a plurality of states, including states of movement and non-movement of the motorized wheelchair, said system comprising:

a controller responsive to electrical signals to change  
the state of the motorized wheelchair from any one  
of the plurality of states to another, wherein  
each of the electrical signals corresponds to a  
change of state;

a sound transducer for converting sounds into a  
plurality of said electrical signals; and  
wherein said controller further comprises an output  
linked to a remote electronic device.

44. (New) A system for controlling a motorized wheelchair by sounds from an operator, wherein the motorized wheelchair can be in any one of a plurality of states, including states of movement and non-movement of the motorized wheelchair, said system comprising:

a controller responsive to electrical signals to change  
the state of the motorized wheelchair from any one  
of the plurality of states to another, wherein  
each of the electrical signals corresponds to a  
change of state;

a sound transducer for converting sounds into a  
plurality of said electrical signals; and

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